

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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***For Immediate Release***

**JANUARY 29, 2004**

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on January 28, 2004, **THOMAS A. DAVIS**, age 42, of Fairview Heights, d/b/a Davis Towing in Washington Park, Illinois, entered pleas of guilty to **WIRE FRAUD IN A SCHEME TO DEFRAUD THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1343, and to two counts charge **MAKING A MATERIAL FALSE STATEMENT TO THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION**, in violation of Title 42, United States Code, Section 408(a)(3). The offenses each carry a total maximum statutory penalty of up to fifteen (15) years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$750,000 and up to three years supervised release. Sentencing is scheduled for May 14, 2004.

As part of the plea, THOMAS A. DAVIS admitted that he had been working since at least January of 1999 and failed to report his work and income to the Social Security Administration, resulting in an overpayment of \$28,940. As a factual basis for the plea, THOMAS A. DAVIS further admitted to being an owner of Davis Towing and the Chameleon Club in Washington Park, Illinois.

The indictment follows an investigation conducted by the Social Security Administration, Office of Inspector General's Office and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of the case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Norman R. Smith.